



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist with Baptism Season of Creation

**Sunday 20th September 2026
at 11am**

With a congregation in the church
and live on YouTube



Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.

Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.

We especially welcome Stephen Paisley, and those who have come to support him, as he is being baptised today.

Our celebrant today is the Venerable Rosemary Lain-Priestley, Advisor to the Bishop of London.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

[Tune: Kingsfold; Words: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889]

**I heard the voice of Jesus say:
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad,
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say:
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say;
'I am this dark world's Light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk,
till trav'ling days are done.

OPENING RESPONSES

The priest says

Grace, mercy and peace from God and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

And also with you.

The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.

**Eternal God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

The deacon says

Let us call to mind the fractured relationships and injustices of
our world;

Let us remember our own part in this and make our confession in penitence and faith.

KYRIE (*Ghanaian*)

The cantor sings

Kyrie eleison.

(*Lord, have mercy.*)

All sing

**Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,**

**Christe eleison, Christe eleison,
Christe eleison. Christe eleison.**

**Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

After a short silence, the deacon leads the confession ...

Living God, we confess that we have not loved you with all our whole heart, nor lived in right relationship with Creation. In sorrow and repentance, we acknowledge our complicity in the earth's desecration, our indifference to the cries of its beings and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

In your mercy, may we be forgiven.

May we find the hope and courage to renew our relationship with you and serve the healing of your Creation.

Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

The priest says

May the God who is both power and love forgive you
and set you free; give you healing and strength,
and raise you to new life in Christ.

Amen.

THE GLORIA (*Argentinian*)

The cantor sings

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.

**And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.**

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

**And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

Let us pray

God of Creation
whose glory is around and within us;
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence,
and know your peace at our lives' end.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Philippians 1.21-end

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

PSALM 105 vv.37-43

Response: You led forth your people with gladness.

During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the centre aisle of the church where it is read among the people. Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.

THE GOSPEL

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

The cantor sings

Glory to you O Lord.

Glory to you O Lord.

Matthew 20.1-16

Jesus said 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard."

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The cantor sings

Praise to you O Christ
Praise to you O Christ.

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Please sit.

SERMON

The Revd Lucy Winkett

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The deacon says

Let us pray for the world, for the church,
for all in need and for those who have asked for our prayers.

Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the congregation.

BAPTISM

*The candidate and priest move to the font,
and the congregation turns to face them, singing ...*

**Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul
who leads me into life.**

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Faith is the gift of God to all people.
In baptism, Christ is adding to our number those whom he is
calling. People of God, will you welcome Stephen and uphold
him in his new life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

THE DECISION

The priest addresses the candidate for baptism:

Stephen, do you wish to be baptised?

The candidate says

I do.

The priest says

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into a marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

The candidate says

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the candidate's forehead, saying:

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All say

**Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to the end of your life.**

The priest says

May God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

The priest says

Praise God who made heaven and earth.

God's promise is kept forever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest continues:

We thank you, God of life, for the gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through water you led the children of Israel

from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John

and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ,
to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.

In it we are buried with Christ in his death.

By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,

we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Friends, I ask you to profess
together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Creator,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in God the Creator.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.**

THE BAPTISM

The priest says

Stephen, I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

May God who has received you by baptism into the Church,
pour upon you the riches of grace, that within the company of
Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by the
anointing of the Holy Spirit and come to the inheritance of the
saints in glory.

Amen.

THE GIVING OF THE CANDLE

The priest gives a candle to the candidate, saying:

Stephen, God receives you by baptism into the Church.
Receive this light.

This is to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

All say

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Creator.

THE WELCOME

The priest addresses the candidate, saying:

God receives you by baptism into the church.

All say

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are members together of the body of Christ.**

We are children of the same Creator.

We welcome you!

THE PEACE

The priest says

Peace to you from God, eternal Creator:
Peace to you from Christ, who is our peace:
Peace to you from the Holy Spirit,
the giver and sustainer of all life.

The deacon says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The priest says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please share the Peace with your neighbours if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.

During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken. If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available.

If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £10, or the QR code on page 22.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Christ, be our light; Words: Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)]

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts,

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

**Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.**

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

**Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.**

Many the gifts, many the people,

many the hearts that yearn to belong.

**Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.**

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

We gather round this table now as fellow creatures,
drawn together in this holy place to receive our name,
as strangers become pilgrims at this altar on earth.

As we do not own the Earth, we do not own Christ's table at which we are fed and sustained by God.

Like our common home, it's ours only when we share it.

Eternal God, give us open hearts and open hands to be fed at your table.

Amen.

GATHERING

All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit, please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the front of the church.

While moving to the altar, please join in singing ...

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above you heavenly host,

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption in Christ ...

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest continues the Church's prayer of thanksgiving ...

SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS (HEW)

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

All sing

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

The cantor sings

Blessed is the one.

All sing

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

*The prayer of consecration continues recalling Christ's command to his disciples at the Last Supper, ending with:
"... as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"*

THE ACCLAMATIONS (Haugen)

The cantor sings

Great is the mystery of faith.

All sing after the cantor

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The prayer continues ...

At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor

**Blessing and honour and glory and power,
be yours for ever.**

Amen.

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in your own language.

The priest says

Let us pray in the words that Jesus gave us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

The Bread is broken and the priest says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The priest says

This is the table of Christ.

It has been made ready for those who love God,
and those who want to love more.

So come; you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been to this sacrament often
and you who have not been for some time.

You who have tried to follow Christ and you who have failed.

Come. It is Christ who asks us to meet him here.

THE COMMUNION

*During Communion, the Lay Singers will sing **We Shall Be Known**, words and music by Karisha Longaker of MaMuse (2016).*

We shall be known by the company we keep,

By the ones who circle round to tend these fires.

We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap
the seeds of change alive from deep within the earth.

It is time now, it is time now that we thrive.

It is time we lead ourselves into the well.

It is time now, and what a time to be alive
in this great turning we shall learn to lead in love.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Source of all Life,
we thank you for the gifts of Creation:
the deep wells of salvation that sustain our bodies and souls.
We offer ourselves to tend and care for your world.
Guide us and keep us:
renew us, that we may work for the coming of your kin-dom.
Through Jesus, the One who brings all things together in love.
Amen.

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN

[Tune: Coe Fen; Words: John Mason (c.1645-1694)]

How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie.
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high.
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise, but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace.
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing because thou art their sun.
Lord, send a beam on me.
for where heav'n is but once begun
there alleluias be.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is ev'rywhere.

THE BLESSING

The priest says

May God give you grace to follow the light of Christ,
wherever you are led and however long the road.
And the blessing of God almighty;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you now and always.
Amen.

The deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



DONATE ONLINE

If you would like to support the ministry of St James's, please scan this QR code to make a one-off or regular donation.

Alternatively, please visit sjp.org.uk/donate, or use one of the tap donation points in the church. Donations will appear on your bank statement as 'Supported Business'.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

Our partnership with St Bart's New York and our musicians, clergy, PCC and fundraisers who are visiting them this month.

Those who have asked for our prayers

[Laura](#).

Recently departed

[Tanella](#), and for Tchansia and Tainy who mourn her.

[Catherine Gregory](#), and for Hilary and all who mourn her.

May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Newcomers' Lunch

TODAY - Sunday 20th September at 1pm

New to St James's? if so, you are warmly invited to join us for our Newcomers' Lunch next Sunday, 20th September.



We will meet at the glass doors at the back of the church after the service and walk together to Lucy's flat for lunch. If you would like to come, please speak to one of our Churchwardens (Dee and Claire) after this morning's Eucharist, letting them know about any dietary requirements.

Everyone who is new to our community is very welcome.

Celebrating the Saints Together on Sunday 1st November

11am Eucharist at St Pancras, Euston Road

In church and online

For the Feast of All Saints, the congregations of St James's and St Pancras will worship as one community together.



The Eucharist will be at St Pancras at 11am, The Revd Jonathan Lee will preside and The Revd Lucy Winkett will preach.

All are welcome as we celebrate the joy and

the love of the saints in heaven and earth. Please note that there will be no service at 11am at St James's on that day!

Season of Creation: 'Encounter at the wellhead'

Sunday 27th September at 1pm

A pilgrimage to St Olave's, Hart Street, in the City of London

St Olave's has a medieval well in their crypt chapel. We will walk approximately 3 miles from St James's to St Olave's, encountering numerous well-sites and 12 other churches on the way, reflecting on Ezekiel's vision (47:1-12) and our shared lives in the Thames watershed.

The walk will conclude with refreshments and a short service at St Olave's. Please email ecochurch@sjp.org.uk to register your interest. Numbers will be capped at about 25.

This event is a collaboration with The Revd Phillip Dawson, Rector of St Olave's, Hart Street and former member of St James's. We regret this event is not fully accessible as there are steep, narrow steps to the crypt at St Olave's.

For more information about our Season of Creation programme, visit <https://earthjustice.sjp.org.uk/season-of-creation-2026>



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